



February 5, 2003

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Commission Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
CY-B402  
Washington, DC 20554  
RE: Proceeding 03-16 (must include this number)

Dear Ms. Dortch,

I am pleased to support SBC Ameritech's efforts to gain approval to provide long distance service to Michigan customers.

Mott Community College (MCC) has undertaken a major strategic initiative to create an economic and workforce development strategy that addresses the employment needs of individuals and the labor needs of employers throughout the six county regions of Genesee, Oakland, Shiawassee, St. Clair, Livingston, and Lapeer. As Flint continues to work towards an improved economic position, it is important that those of us who are providing solutions be able to have a full range of competitive service providers including in the telecommunications industry.

MCC has been a leader in distance learning opportunities in this region for over a decade. Our regional presence continues to grow as we open our new \$37 million M-TEC Regional Technology Center and operate several regionally located sites including the Livingston County M-TEC, Clio Center, and our Lapeer and Southern Lakes campuses. This expansion means that it is critical that we continue to expand our on-line offerings from our main campus in a cost effective manner. Students seek MCC because we are able to offer them affordable educational opportunities. Full competition in the telecommunications industry has demonstrated savings at all levels in other states, the kind of savings that will help MCC continue to offer affordable options to our students.

SBC Ameritech has demonstrated its willingness to invest in Michigan by providing jobs and by supporting many community-based initiatives that help provide access to technology to those who are being left behind. We look forward to being able to join our colleagues in other states such as Texas, Pennsylvania, New York and Georgia and benefit from a fully competitive telecommunications industry.

Sincerely,

Scott J. Jenkins  
Vice President of Administration and Student Services

